

INTERLAKE MEETING NOTES

May 7, 2005

Sugar Ridge Fish and Wildlife Area

Meeting commenced at 10:10 AM and began with a short information session consisting of the following:

“There is no such thing as a FREE LUNCH!”

---Buckminster Fuller

SO....

WHOSE “TAX” MONEY IS IT?

...or, where the money comes from and goes to.

General Fund Everybody's Tax

...pays for:

Outdoor Rec Staff

Salaries

Operating expenses

Cigarette Tax

...used for:

CRR, which means

Construction,

Repair & Rehab

Also in

05-07 BUDGET

\$175,000 for

Interlake

Dedicated or Special Funds

WHIP= Wildlife Habitat Improvement Prgm

Minelands

Registration Fees—state

RTP Grants—from federal gas taxes

RTP--Recreational Trails Program

Cost of Gasoline includes Fed. tax

of registered vehicles x magic formula “ $a+t-v / xyz$ ”= INDIANA'S SHARE

RTP money comes from motorized recreationists and is used for ALL trails

DECISION RENDERED FOR CURRENT USE OF INTERLAKE

The new Director, Kyle Hupfer, believes Interlake is an excellent recreation area and he is excited about the possibilities at this unique property, that, when completed, will maximize the potential for multiple use activities

Therefore, Interlake will be open on a limited basis as follows:

2005

May> TURKEY HUNTING ONLY until season ends May 15.

From May 16, thru June, July, August, September 30:

Recreational use permitted *with restrictions*

Remove all buildings or shanties by May 27.

No Motorized Vehicles

No Camping

Beginning of deer season October 1 through end of small game season January 31
2006 open for hunting.

CLOSED to ALL activities beginning FEBRUARY 1, 2006

Reclamation activities will commence after that date with large equipment used on the property. The work must be done and guaranteed for a year. Once we have passed that milestone, we will consider reopening the facility for each recreational use as it can be accommodated until all former recreational uses except camping are resumed.

Letters

Thanks for letters to Legislators supporting funding. The division did receive \$175,000 in CRR or capital funds to be used at Interlake. The budget bill is not effective until July 1, and the funds must then be released through the budget committee before being used for projects. The first priority is a survey of the property boundary.

What's been accomplished:

Aerials-Done-last job--before camera broke

Done by Jasonville Reclamation crew who also need them.

2' contours are required for soil erosion site plans & future construction-
and to be able to overlay W/GIS maps

What needs to be done next:

CRR budget approved

Sign Orders

Survey bids by 7/1/05

Roads

Working to vacate county road which-will allow everyone to ride on-use as trail when opened for riding.

Dam on "Stick Up Lake" SW corner

breached-water draining-5' water down-damage from wheeled riding.

Further draw down could be beneficial for wildlife & to do repair.

Volunteers needed for:

Clean up days/work days

Need help hauling trash away

Dumpsters-Sanitary DNR

Work AM-PLAY PM

Put up Signs around WHIP areas and on property boundaries

Need to sign Volunteer agreement (forms good for 1 year.)

Another volunteer opportunity:

Removal of invasive species, such as:

Honeysuckle

Tree of heaven

Garlic mustard

Kudzu

Comments/?'s

Can individuals run dog while on horseback?

Yes-after May 15th.

Think about kinds of facilities you, as users want to see on property:
Shelters, etc. Where?

Is there a need for steering committee?

Yes, and the WCRD acting as lead group

Need bulletin board-can we do that?

yes-need for info for visitors

Recommend an update of various groups' web pages w/ accurate info.

DNR can put links on DNR page

Mining CO's taking new attitude re their land-especially reclaimed areas.

Get Permission before entering, riding, etc.

How can we be on property legitimately when posting info on boards, etc.

DNR can issue an ID card similar to one we use at Redbird for authorized workers.

Who will monitor users during interim?

Private indiv. may always report to Sheriff-Conservation Officers, Do Not Confront!

What about insurance

OHV's covered under law that requires insurance-ie autos

Liability insurance concerns

Who has to have? How much?

Prohibitive-how can businesses do?

State is self-insured:

W. VA. passed law alleviating problem w/ liability insurance.

Contact legislators w/facilities in districts

Any \$ for purchase of more property near Interlake?

Don't know, if any probably very limited.

Re liability-to allow hunting, fishing, trapping, property owners are not liable according to the law-unless charging a fee.

What about trespass? -

Not liable.

What about mine company's leasing land? -

Some has been reclaimed & can't be destroyed.

What about user fees?

How much? - Annual? - 3-4 day permit for out-of state?

Need for all users to respect other users.

Ethics Program

Tread Lightly-Master Trainer course

Ethics- How you behave when no one is looking!

Education- Helps users understand needs/concerns of others.

Safely Class at Freedom, IN. May 16 weekend

B.O.W. w/ ATV Class

Future Dates

Work Day June 4

Meet September 10th make it our second work day-and start earlier

WORK DAYS

Trash Pick UP

Mark Whip boundaries

Bulletin Board Install

June 4th National Trails Day—First Work Day

8AM-Start

Marion Parking lot off C.R. 1200

Tasks

Sanitary info--Nate

Trash removal info--Wally

Front Gate Signage-talk to Nate

Adjourned 12:10 P.M.

DNR Attending:

Division of Outdoor Recreation:

Nila Armstrong, Emily Kress

Division of Fish and Wildlife

Nate Levitte

Division of Law Enforcement

Officer Mike Kellner

Officer Eric Doane